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CIA/PIR-15/63
November 1963

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE REPORT

POSSIBLE PROPELLANT PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION, ISFARA, FERGANA VALLEY, USSR



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Published and Disseminated by

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

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POSSIBLE PROPELLANT PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION, ISFARA, FERGANA VALLEY, USSR

INTRODUCTION

A significant industrial installation associated with the production and storage of highly explosive material, possibly propellants, is under construction on the northwest outskirts of Isfara (40-07N 70-38E) in the Fergana Valley of the USSR (Figure 1). This heavily secured installation consists of a production area containing several revetted buildings, a storage area located one nautical mile (nm) northwest of the

production area, and a housing area located one nm southeast of the production area.

Photography of this installation is provided by [redacted] missions between [redacted]

[redacted] The quality and small scale of this photography preclude the determination of exact measurements and the assigning of definite functions to most of the buildings.

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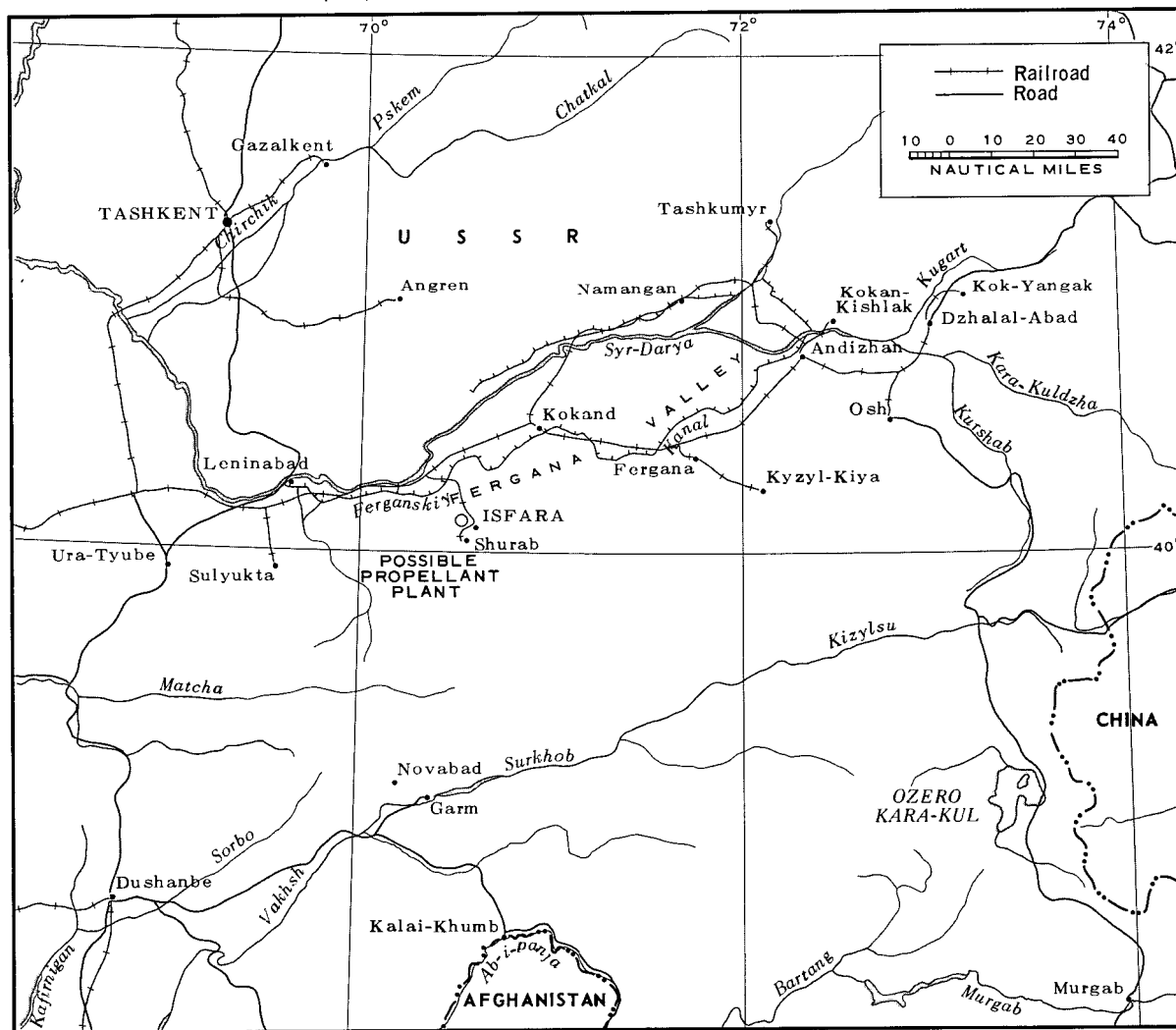


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF POSSIBLE PROPELLANT PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION, ISFARA, FERGANA VALLEY, USSR.

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CHRONOLOGY OF CONSTRUCTION

Excellent-quality [] photography of [] showed no indications of the installation. [] photography of [] which only partially covered the installation site revealed the presence of the Storage Area. The installation was observed in its entirety on photography of []. On this photography the security fencing appeared completed, the Housing Area appeared almost completed, and most of the buildings in the Storage Area had been constructed. In the Production Area three buildings had been completed and the foundations had

been constructed for the two large parallel buildings.

A study of later photography-- [] showed considerable progress in building and revetment construction. The latest photography [] showed building and revetment construction still in progress. Figure 2 indicates the buildings and revetments that were constructed in the Production and Storage Areas between []

PRODUCTION AREA

The production facilities occupy an area approximately 3,500 by 2,000 feet surrounded by a double security fence (Figures 2 and 3). The major components in the area are two similar parallel buildings, each 425 by 50 feet, and approximately 300 feet apart. These buildings are two or three stories high. Very large earth revetments, 50 feet wide at the base and at least as high as the buildings, surround each of these buildings.

Just north of these buildings a large, multi-story building, measuring 320 by 70 feet, appears to be in the midstage of construction. At least three other multistory buildings are located in the Production Area including two that are similar, each measuring 225 by 70 feet, with longitudinal monitor roofs and one measuring 200 by 40 feet. Other buildings in the Production Area include seven single-story buildings varying in size from 260 by 55 feet to 110 by 55 feet and 15 to 20 smaller buildings. Earth scars, suggesting possible pipelines, connect several of these buildings.

Along the western side of the Production Area are seven small buildings, each about 25 feet square, in paired revetments. These buildings appear similar in size, location, and revetment pattern to grinding, mixing, and drying buildings normally associated with the manufacture of propellants.

A rail line, which serves several buildings in the eastern half of the Production Area, leads north one nm and terminates in the Storage Area. This rail line appeared to be under construction on photography of [] the line between the Production and the Storage Areas appeared to be completed.

[] photography, a rail line leading directly from the main rail line in Isfara to the installation was observed under construction. This rail line, which joins the rail line between the Production Area and the Storage Area approximately 1,200 feet north of the Production Area, allows independent access to each of the areas.

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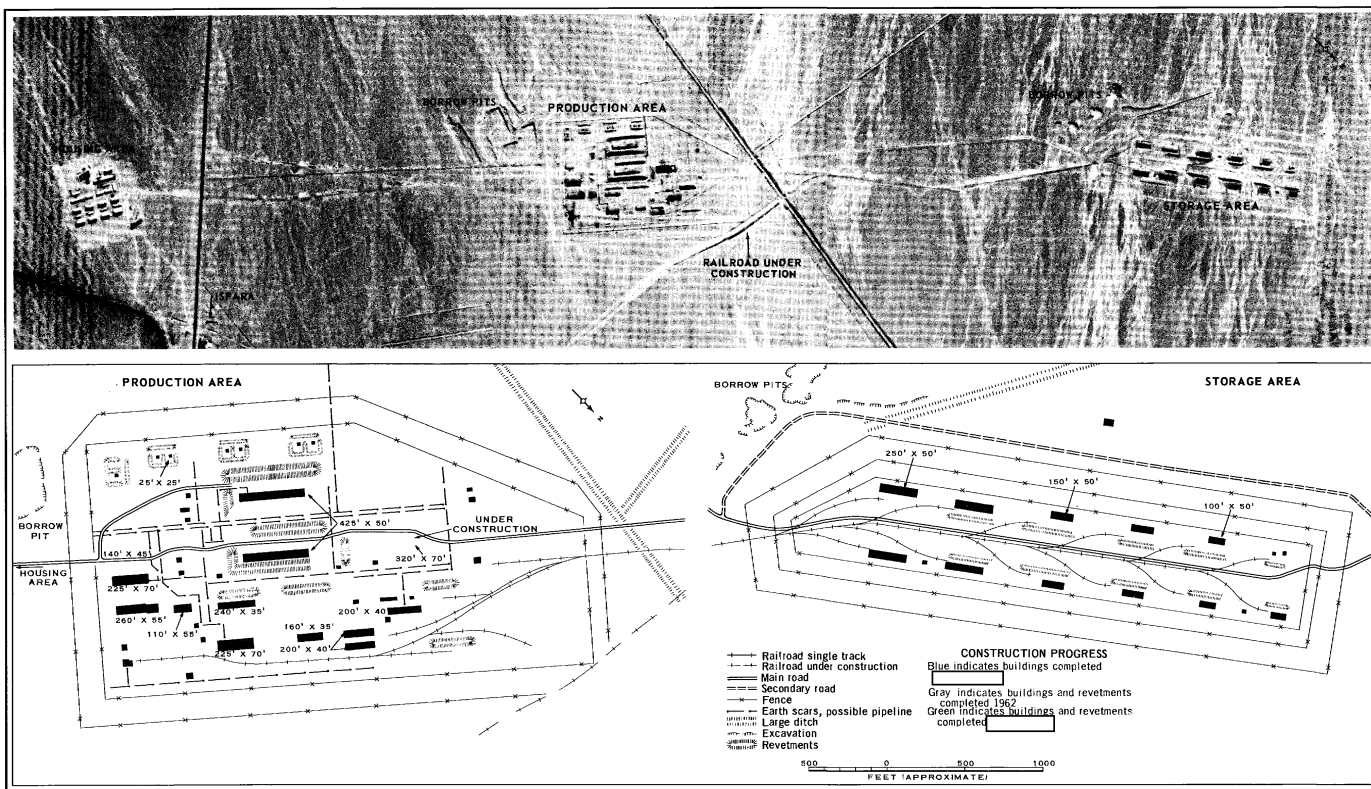


FIGURE 2. POSSIBLE PROPELLANT PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION, ISFARA, USSR.

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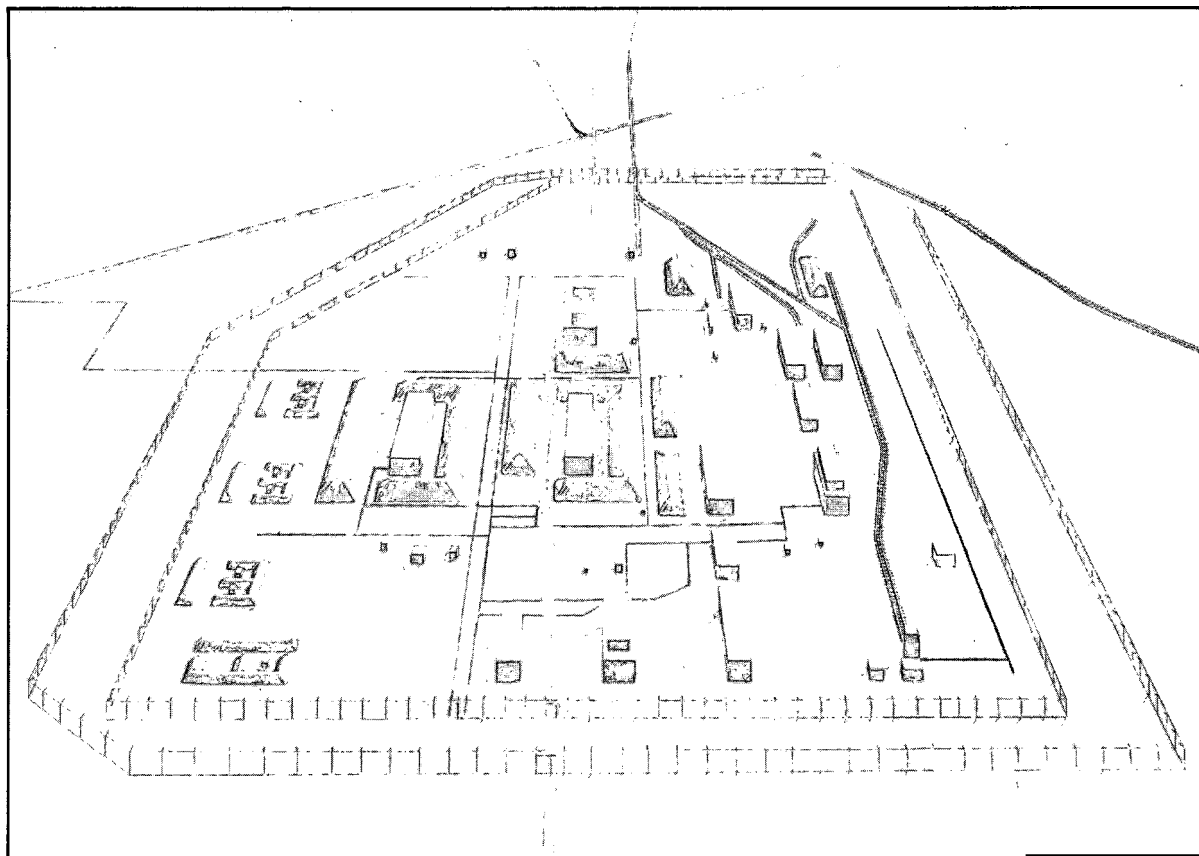


FIGURE 3. PERSPECTIVE DRAWING OF THE PRODUCTION AREA AT THE POSSIBLE PROPELLANT PLANT, ISFARA, USSR.

STORAGE AREA

The storage facilities, which are secured by triple fencing, occupy an area 3,800 by 1,100 feet and include 11 large, rail-served single-story storage buildings (Figure 2). The storage buildings are arranged in two parallel rows approximately 350 feet apart. A rail spur runs between the two rows with a branch spur leading to each of the buildings. Four of the storage buildings measure 250 by 50 feet, four 150 by 50 feet, and three 100 by 50 feet.

Six buildings which occupy the central portion of the Storage Area are each enclosed on three sides by large, high earth revetments. These six buildings, each of which is located 350 feet from the nearest building, probably are

used to store some type of highly explosive material.

The four largest buildings (250 by 50 feet) are located in the southern portion of the Storage Area. These four buildings (two in each row) apparently are used for the storage of material different from, and less explosive than, that stored in the other buildings in the Storage Area. Two of these buildings are not revetted and the other two are revetted only on the sides facing the six heavily revetted buildings.

Located near the northwest corner of the Storage Area are two small buildings, each approximately 20 by 20 feet, which are protected by a single earth revetment. The large

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building located near the northeast corner of the Storage Area also has a single revetment along one side.

Area between photography of [] is additional revetment construction which is still in progress.

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The only apparent change in the Storage

HOUSING AREA

The Housing Area, located one nm southeast of the Production Area, includes 8 two-story buildings, each 130 by 30 feet, and 12 single-story buildings, 2 measuring 200 by 30 feet, 4 measuring 100 by 30 feet, and 6 measuring

100 by 25 feet (Figure 2). In addition, two administration/laboratory-type buildings, each approximately 150 by 35 feet and two or three stories high, were constructed in this area between []

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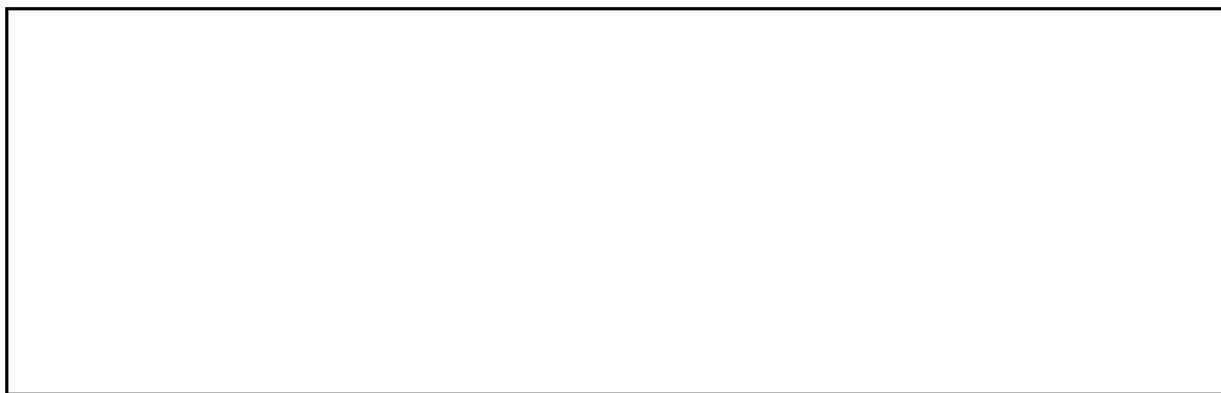
ELECTRIC POWER

A probable electric power transmission line which may serve this installation is under construction. Earth scars suggesting survey lines and footings for power-transmission towers are evident between the installation and a probable power substation located on the southern outskirts of Kanibadam, 11 nm to the north-north-

west. The electric power substation at Kani-badam apparently is a component of a new electric power system entering the Fergana Valley from the east, possibly from the large Kaikak Kum Hydroelectric Power Plant (GES) at Khodz-hent near Leninabad.

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REFERENCES



MAPS OR CHARTS

ACIC. ONC-F-6 (Lake Balkhash), 1st ed, Sep 61, scale 1:1,000,000 (CONFIDENTIAL)

SAC. USATC, Series 200, Sheet 0328-23A, 1st ed, Dec 59, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

REQUIREMENT

CIA. OSI/C-SI-80,299

PROJECT

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